THE CENTINEL

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

Volume 20, Number 1
July, 1972

Choice BU Coins in Stock

QUARTERS BU

	P	D	S
1916	—	60.00	—
1920	42.50	—	—
1928	—	47.50	—
1929	—	55.00	—
1930	40.00	NM	47.50
1932	30.00	—	—
1934	13.00	72.50	NM
1934	22.50	LIGHT MOTTO	
1935	10.00	69.50	37.50
1936	8.25	275.00	35.00
1937	9.50	15.00	60.00
1938	47.50	NM	30.00
1939	7.50	10.50	32.50
1940	12.50	42.50	7.50
1941	3.00	6.75	7.50
1942	2.50	4.50	18.50
1943	2.50	4.25	5.50
1944	1.50	3.50	3.25
1945	1.35	4.00	2.50
1946	1.25	3.75	5.75
1947	2.00	2.25	5.50
1948	1.50	3.00	2.75
1949	12.50	6.00	NM
1950	1.75	2.00	3.75
1951	1.25	1.25	7.50
1952	1.50	1.50	3.00
1953	2.00	1.25	2.00
1954	1.25	1.50	1.50
1955	2.25	5.00	NM
1956	1.25	1.00	NM
1957	1.00	1.00	NM
1958	2.50	.85	NM
1959 PD thru 1964 PD @			.85
Set 1941PDS-1964PD @			141.50

HALF DOLLARS BU

	P	D	S
1934	11.50	37.50	90.00
1935	11.00	59.50	70.00
1936	10.00	21.00	47.00
1937	12.00	70.00	57.50
1938	39.00	200.00	NM
1939	12.00	15.00	35.00
1940	8.50	NM	22.50
1941	8.00	15.50	37.50
1942	6.75	18.50	19.00
1943	6.25	15.00	19.00
1944	6.00	7.75	8.00
1945	6.75	7.50	11.00
1946	8.50	14.00	9.50
1947	15.50	10.00	NM
1948	13.00	8.00	NM
1949	32.50	26.50	27.50
1950	23.50	16.00	NM
1951	6.50	25.00	15.00
1952	4.50	4.00	14.50
1953	15.00	3.50	7.50
1954	3.50	2.25	4.25
1955	8.50	NM	NM
1956	4.50	NM	NM
1957	4.50	2.60	NM
1958	4.50	2.25	NM
1959	3.75	2.25	NM
1960	3.00	2.25	NM
1961	3.00	3.00	NM
1962	2.25	2.00	NM
1963	1.75	1.75	NM
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THE CENTINEL

Official Publication / Central States Numismatic Society

Vol. 20, No. 1 July, 1972

In Review

A Barrel of Fun, Profit in Beer City

Conventioneers — more than 5300 of them — attending the 33rd anniversary convention of the Central States Numismatic Society were accorded the proverbial "red carpet" treatment by the hosting Milwaukee Numismatic Society, April 28-30, at Milwaukee's spacious Red Carpet Inn-Expo Convention Center. All necessary ingredients for a successful numismatic conclave were skillfully blended together by the M. N. S., headed by A. P. "Del" Bertschy and Gale Highsmith, to make the '72 C. S. N. S. a memorable milestone for future convention planners to set their sites on. *The Centinel's* cameraman elbowed his way through the crowds of collectors, dealers and spectators to capture the photographic glimpses of the affair on this and the succeeding pages. (There's more to come, too, in the next issue.)

Numismatic-minded spectotors crowded the exhibits orea of the vost convention holl os they opproised the efforts ond collections of neorly three dozen exhibitors, including the multi-cose disploy of world gold coins belonging to Irving Moskovitz.

ABOVE: Nearly everyone who visited the three-day convention viewed the U. S. Treasury's "Billion Dollar Display" manned by Bureau of Engraving and Printing representative John J. Crnkovic. Many Sunday conventioneers found long waiting lines ahead of them. LEFT: A familiar sight in the bourse, Bob Medlar of Lubbock, Texas, scrutinized a collector's prized coin. Dealers from all parts of the country were represented in the 118 table bourse.

BELOW and RIGHT: Dealers and collectors alike jammed the auction room as Dave Shapiro of Chicago's RARCOA coin firm hammered down 1194 coin auction lots. The two session auction featured the 1873 U. S. and foreign coin collection of Harry X Boosel, veteran Chicago numismatist.

ABOVE: Finding a vacant typewriter at the convention registration table, Val Pasvolsky, educational forum speaker from Lakewood, N. J., assisted a group of young Milwaukee collectors. More than 2800 persons passed the registration table on Sunday, and many acquired the convention's oxidized silver badge.

Medals and coins from The Franklin Mint shared the spotlight at Milwaukee's C. S. N. S. convention. Ed Quagliana, FM's cangenial Collector Services representative, was an hand to discuss his firm's numeraus callector-oriented programs. Here he held the attention of Russell Schultz, Milwaukee collector. RIGHT: Detrait attarney and out-going C. S. N. S. prexy, Geargе D. Hatie (upper phata), canducted his final business session with afficers and gavernors of the Society befare relinquishing the past to newly elected David L. Caaper of St. Lauis.

GUEST

EDITORIAL

Happy Days Are Here Again

Over much of the past two decades, coin convention activity, rightfully or wrongfully, more often than not has been held up as a reliable test gauge of the level of overall hobby activity. The validity of the claim is subject to some question, as the overall make-up of the hobby is extremely complex, but shows certainly serve as one of the most visible gauges.

For many years the annual conventions of the Central States Numismatic Society, ranked right at the top of the scale on any listing of the really big coin shows, provided a valid assessment of hobby activity. In recent years, unfortunately, some bad days were visited upon the organization, and its shows neither ranked at the top of the list in importance, nor as an activity gauge.

An about-face has been executed by the new leadership of the organization over the past two years. In 1971 much of the responsibility for the resurgent participation in the convention (held in St. Louis) was placed at the hands of an able committee which had been honed by presentation of the ANA convention a year before. This year's convention city was Milwaukee, and this time a relatively fresh committee did even better.

Central States, toting up an attendance of more than 5,000 for this year's show, is obviously on its feet and running again. Walking up and down the bourse of some 130 dealers, one was able to gain the feeling that he was working an (inter) national bourse. Few were the states — east, west, north or south, not to mention central — that were not represented by a force which included most of the nation's leading dealers.

The several staff members who were in attendance at Milwaukee returned with reports of an extremely high level of activity in the bourse, where dealers without exception were enthused at the amount of business transacted. On the collector side of the ledger, those who paused to pass a few words at our table were bubbling with enthusiasm over what they were able to come up with to fill in their collections.

The general reactions with respect to all aspects of the event were reminiscent of the lyrics of a popular song — *Happy Days Are Here Again* — not alone for the Central States Numismatic Society and its activities, but more importantly for the hobby at large. In review, the trend of activity at all major shows over the past two years has been building, and the future is looking ever brighter.

— Clifford Mishler
Senior Editor
Numismatic News Weekly

ATTENTION

Here are the dates and locations of future C.S.N.S. Conventions:

May 4-6, 1973 ..... Peoria, Illinois
Dates to be announced, 1974 ..... Detroit, Michigan

Invitations for future conventions must be submitted in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer.

PRESIDENTIAL COMMENTARY

I assume the Presidency of C. S. N. S. with a feeling of humility in recognition of the great numismatists who have preceded me. I shall do everything in my power to perpetuate the favorable precedents set by them and to contribute effectively and constructively to our Society's success and general welfare. Your Executive Board already is considering plans toward these ends which, hopefully, will receive the wholehearted endorsement of our membership.

I subscribe wholeheartedly to the goal of Past Presidents to increase our membership and to participate more actively individually and Society-wise in numismatic legislation. I believe we all share a responsibility along those lines. We can begin by signing up at least one new member as soon as possible and to insure that not only individuals, but clubs per se, are members. Let's all keep informed on proposed numismatic legislation so as to make the most intelligent decisions possible in pursuing their enaction or disposition.

I should like also to encourage increased emphasis on junior participation; greater membership participation in the form of contributions to **The Centinel**, without which it would be impossible to keep our membership informed; overall Society operating suggestions; and our annual conventions, particularly in the areas of attendance, official registration, and exhibits. Particularly I want to commend the present and past **Centinel** Editors for their devotion of personal time, expense, and attention to the advancement of our Society.

I would like to see our Board of Governors increased to the maximum of two Governors from each state, and welcome your recommendations for such personnel.

In all of these endeavors I solicit your wholehearted cooperation and support. It is important to remember that the success of our Society depends not only on its officers, but upon each individual member. If we contribute nothing individually, we cannot expect the overall stature of our Society to grow. Therefore, I urge all of you to join your other officers and me in exploring more and better ways to increase and enhance our Society's stature and importance in the numismatic world.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve in past various C. S. N. S. capacities and as your new President. Let's all join to make this a banner year! —DAVID L. COOPER,
President

* * *

Seigniorage is the difference between the cost of bullion and the face value of the coin.

* * *

Milled edges on coins get the name from the process rather than the design. The operation is actually "milling" and the design is called "reeding."

* * *

A "counterfeit" is a coin or medal meant to deceive the public.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

While I was in the hospital, I understand C. S. N. S. had one of the best conventions ever. I have been active in the Society since 1957, and I have seen many general convention chairmen function since that time. At the Milwaukee convention, you witnessed one of the best, namely Del Bertschy. It was a great personal disappointment for me not to be there. Am looking forward to Peoria next year.

We have several notations hoping the C. S. N. S. interim meeting will be held in conjunction with a Fall convention in the vicinity of Chicago. It is definitely not in members' thoughts to have it at an A. N. A. convention. So we are waiting for an invitation. (Suggestion: Oak Park Fall Convention?? We have been there several times in the past. Nice exhibits, good program, good bourse.) Think it over and write to us.

C. S. N. S. display cases are stored at Peoria for next year's convention. Some old cases are still available for clubs needing cases for fall conventions.

To members who have not yet received their membership cards: Remember that new applicants have to be cleared in **The Centinel**; renewals must allow time for personal checks to clear. Mail and renewals are heavy during this time of the year, and several hundred renewals cannot all be serviced at once. So please be patient.

—F. S. EPPS,
Secretary-Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

The persons named below have applied for membership in the Society. Each applicant will become a member in 30 days, unless a written objection to his application is received by the Secretary-Treasurer prior to that date.

NEW MEMBERS SINCE THE APRIL, 1972, ISSUE OF *THE CENTINEL*

2361	John Abbott	Birmingham, Mich.
2362	John J. Alvey	Sioux City, Iowa
2363	Erwin W. Beskow	Chicago, Ill.
2364	M. G. Brownlee	Dallas, Texas
2365	Robert J. Kellner	Milwaukee, Wis.
2366	Tom McAfee	Winter Park, Fla.
2367	Brian Matson	Waukegan, Ill.
2368	Samuel S. Segal	Pompano Beach, Fla.
2369	James R. Stahura	Hammond, Ind.
2370	Malcom Varner	Pasadena, Calif.
2371	Jack F. Curtis	Stevens Point,Wis.
2372	Father B. V. Greteman	Scranton, Iowa
2373	Dan Harley	Hot Springs, Ark.

MORE NEW MEMBERS –

2374	Terry Megules	Daytona Beach, Fla.
2375	William A. Mitkoff	Pittsfield, Mass.
2376	Michael O'Hara	Seattle, Wash.
2377	Paul Runze	Cottage Grove, Minn.
2378	Edgar C. Welsh, Jr.	Peoria, Ill.
2379	Karl H. Wildfang	Des Moines, Iowa
2380	L. Finch Booker	New Brighton, Minn.
2381	Valentine Pasvolsky	Lakewood, N.J.
2382	Lester C. Beck	Brookfield, Wis.
2383	Fred Dickfoss	Racine, Wis.
2384	Roger J. Radtke	Oak Creek, Wis.
2385	Art Adler	Milwaukee, Wis.
2386	Frank C. Hartkopf	Milwaukee, Wis.
2387	Marvin J. Hartkopf	Milwaukee, Wis.
2388	Dennis Heller	Minneapolis, Minn.
2389	John Hickman	Des Moines, Iowa
2390	Joseph A. Jaeger	Wauwatosa, Wis.
2391	James C. Kiefer	Dayton, Ohio
2392	W. F. Krieg	Yeadon, Pa.
2393	Ben E. Marlenee	Des Moines, Iowa
2394	Clarence Micensky	Detroit, Mich.
2395	E. J. Mueller	Milwaukee, Wis.

(Continued on page 15)

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The Maids and Matrons of U.

— by Arthur F. Giere

Even though it is said that a female is a person who would rather have a caress than a career, we do find her in a monetary career in order to give poetry to the world.

It was Balzac who proclaimed her to be a creature between man and the angels. In fact, she is the animal that possesses the greatest attachment for man. Bierce has written that she is an animal usually living in the vicinity of man, and having rudimentary susceptibility to domestication. About 2000 years ago a great leader among men, named Paulus, a confirmed bachelor, proclaimed that women should not appear in public affairs at any time. This philosophy was rampant until the Federal Constitution was amended to afford women equal sufferage. So there naturally are abundant reasons for her having a coin career.

Only three coins have been minted in the U.S.A. where a female has been pictured. The first of these was that bearing the face of a foreigner, Queen Isabella I.

Who Was Isabella I? She was Queen of Spain, born April 22, 1451, and died November 26, 1504. According to the dictonary of names, her name is an Anglican variant of Elizabeth (oath of God). Most of her reputation rests on the fact that she helped Cristoforo Colombo find America. Also the infamous Spanish Inquisition was instituted during her rule.

In 1892, in order to commemorate the world's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, the U. S. Congress directed the coinage of a special quarter. This was indeed the beginning of the vast line of silver commemoratives in the United States.

The Isabella silver quarter was the first American coin portraying the face of a foreign monarch. It was in 1893 that a multitude of these coins were minted. At best, it is estimated that about 24,214 of these coins still are available. This very beautiful coin was designed by the well-known and outstanding artist, Charles E. Barber. From the very first, these coins were sold for a price greater than their face value. An uncirculated Isabella quarter could easily bring $75 today.

In 1937, the Roanoke Island, North Carolina, silver half dollar was minted. There were 29,030 pieces made, and today this coin commands — if in nice uncirculated condition — a price of $25. This beautiful commemorative half dollar was minted for the 350th anniversary of Sir Walter Raleigh's "Lost Colony" on Roanoke Island. On the reverse of the coin is shown Eleanor Dare holding the child, Virginia Dare.

Who was Virginia Dare? Historians claim she was the first white girl born in the U. S. A. Virginia was named after the District of Virginia, and she first saw the New World at Roanoke on August 18, 1587, being born just one month after the arrival of the English colonization expedition, and she was a granddaughter of the Hon. John White, governor of the colony.

This early American settlement owes its existence in a measure to Sir Walter

. Coinage

Raleigh (1552-1618), an English statesman and a writer, a favorite of the haughty spinster Queen Elizabeth. He also had the reputation of introducing potatoes and tobacco to England. Convicted of treason, he eventually was executed with a sharp and keen axe belonging to the king who succeeded Queen Elizabeth.

In the years 1935 to 1939 there appeared 85,301 silver coins commemorating another important historical fact in the United States. These were known as the Arkansas Centennial half dollars, the obverse of which bore the portraits of an American Indian chief and an American girl. No one, though, knows the name of the maiden shown. However, the 1939 set of three coins (one from each of three mints) has been selling for close to $300 when found in uncirculated condition.

The U. S. Mint has issued 48 different types of silver commemorative coins. These are the Lafayette silver dollar, the Isabella silver quarter, and the 46 silver half dollars. Each was inaugurated by special Congressional legislation and, oddly enough, none of them has ever had any extensive circulation.

The foregoing silver commemoratives are the only U. S. coins that show definite known feminine characters and strangely one was of a foreign monarch; the other was one showing Virginia Dare and her mother, and the third was labeled an American girl representing all American maidens.

Any one attending a coin show or convention can view most of these beautiful products of the mint. ★

-- MORE --

Collecting 'Collecting' Characters

— *by Daniel C. Parker*

Lest, from my recent article in *The Centinel,* I leave the impression that all collectors are some sort of 'nuts,' allow me to modify that now.

In 1968, at a major convention (C. S. N. S.) in Detroit, I met one my most favorite 'characters!' This chap came to me and asked if I was the man he was seeking, Dan Parker. I admitted I was, and with this he asked, "How does one go about becoming a member of the Detroit Coin Club?" It was simple, I told him, he could come as my guest. I told him the date, the time, and the place of the next meeting.

At the following meeting, while I was chatting with a fellow member, he walked in. After all, he *was* my guest and I therefore hurried to the door to greet him. I escorted him around the room, introducing him to all those present. Upon the completion of the introductions it dawned on me that I didn't know anything of this chap's tastes in numismatic material! So I turned to him and asked, "By the way, just what do you collect?" His answer truly astonished me! Quite simply and modestly he told me, "I haven't made up my mind yet." Seeing the puzzled expression on my face, he hurried to add, "No, up until now *all* I have is *30,000 silver dollars!!!*

Well, I was taken aback, to say the least. But not so speechless as to just stand there. I blurted out, "Lord, would I love to get into *that* trove. After all, I only need two coins to complete my collection." I continued, "The 1895, that everyone needs, and the 1893-S are the coins necessary to fill me in!"

He reached into his pocket and took out three coins. All were 1893-S! "Boy, would I love to have just one!" He then told me, "My sister looked at some of these and she knows a little about coins. She told me these were a *good* date." I had to agree, adding, "I certainly would love to have just one." Thereupon, he thrust one at me and said, "Be my guest, I only have one dollar into it."

My conscience wouldn't allow me to accept something in this manner. So, the second phase of the transaction began. My comment, "I'll pay a fair price." His answer, "No, no, all I want is the dollar I have in the coin." Well, to make a long story short, there I was trying to buy and attempting to haggle his price *up*! He was selling and driving the price *down*! The switch on the usual manner of transacting business has intrigued me to this day, and this is one of the favorite 'characters' I introduce when speaking of my hobby.

Another of the fine people my hobby has given me the privilege of knowing

is the proverbial 'Little Old Lady!'

Early in my collecting career, I was at the bank to get a bag of coins. How typical of all of us who start into the numismatic hobby. I told the teller of my wants and she, being familiar with me, told me she had to go to the vault to get the bag of nickels I was wanting. When she came back, this fine old lady just couldn't help but blurt, "What in the world do you do with so many nickels?" Seeing her for the first time, and being cognizant of my manners, I politely answered, "I go through them." She then asked, "And what do you look for?" Again, I answered, "Certain dates and mintmarks." The next question was, "When you find them, what do you do with them?" Again, I answered, "Place them in my collection."

At her next question, I had to remind myself of the manners which I had been taught by my parents. It was, "When your collection is complete, what do you do with it?" Had I been a boor or smart-aleck, I probably would have told her, "Some wise guy breaks in and steals it from me!" However, being a properly brought up gentleman, I simply answered, "I *appreciate* them!"

This must have been the 'magic word' to her because her next comment was, "I have some old coins my mother gave me. Would you like to see them?" To myself, I thought, here we go — another bunch of junk that has been lying in a bureau drawer for years. However, I couldn't bring myself to be rude to this nice lady. My answer was, "I'd *love* to!"

Now it was my turn to wait while she completed her transaction. She cashed two Social Security checks, her husband's and her own. I then offered her a ride to her home, which she willingly accepted. Only a short distance, and she was *nice* company.

Upon arriving at her home, she introduced me to her husband, an arthritic, who was seated in a wheelchair. I chatted with him while she took off her hat and coat, and toddled off to the rear of the home. When she returned, she was bearing a small box. Carefully, she took off the lid, removed a batt of cotton covering the contents, and proudly, she displayed her little treasure. A treasure indeed!! It took my breath away. A two-cent piece, 1864, looking as if it had been minted yesterday; a three-cent silver coin, again, choice; the shield nickel was next; a half-dime; a seated Liberty dime — all in most choice condition! I couldn't help but tell her that these were the most beautiful coins I had seen in moons, that any collector would be proud to own them, and that it was a trove that we all — as collectors — seek!

Her next statement was classic, "Then you can have them!" Quite simply and firmly. I explained to her that these were worth quite a sum of money, I couldn't just accept them without any payment! She was firm, however. With exquisite dignity, she told me, "No, I want you to have them because *I know that you will appreciate them as I have since my mother gave them to me*!" She would accept no payment, in fact, acted as though I had insulted her to even bring up the subject.

She went on to explain, "Dad and I have no one to leave them to. I want you to have them!" I did, of course, send over a planter of flowers which I thought she would appreciate, and I remained in close touch with this wonderful couple. Only a short while later, he passed on, and — as might be expected — she didn't last too much longer. A most wonderful person, and certainly deserving to be placed in a 'niche of honor' among the 'characters' I've collected over these many years.

One point stands out in my memories of her. The *magic word* I had uttered: *APPRECIATE*! I, in retrospect, can only thank the King Providence that had placed the word, *appreciate,* in my mouth when I answered her at the bank. All the coins in question hold a very special place in my Type Set. They would be there even if they weren't the finest specimens I possess. A truly fine lady, Lord rest her!

Today, with crime and the unsettled state of our country, it is nearly unthinkable to admit to collecting, and one always denies the possession of a collection. One wonders, "Are we doing the right thing? Is this the way it should be?

There may be many such troves, hidden from sight, unavailable to the true collector, and lying *unappreciated*!! ★

The 33rd annual convention of C. S. N. S. is now a part of the Society's history and, undoubtedly, Milwaukee Numismatic Society members have breathed a sigh of relief that their efforts were so well received — and appreciated — by the members and guests who attended. More than 5300 persons passed the registration table (2880 of them on Sunday) making the '72 convention attendance figures a real target for future convention planners to aim towards! While that has to be a record, here's another one: The Saturday evening banquet enjoyed the presence of numerous pasts" of C. S. N. S. history . . . Past Presidents Harry X Boosel, Erwin C. Gerber, Ray O. Lefman, C. C. Shroyer, Ben Stocker, R. S. Yeoman, Honorary President Lee F. Hewitt, and Immediate Past President George D. Hatie!

Elston G. Bradfield, Editor Emeritus of **The Centinel**, was on hand for a share of the spotlight, as were A. N. A. officials John Jay Pittman, Miss Eva Adams, Glenn Smedley, and Grover C. Criswell.

Naturally, awards were a part of the banquet. Del Bertschy, head of the Milwaukee convention, was named to receive the Society's '72 Medal of Merit, Fr. B. V. Greteman of Scranton, Iowa, walked off with best of show exhibiting honors, and The Centinel's Editor was honored with the Bradfield Literary award (the latter two awards made available through the courtesy of the Lewis M. Reagan Memorial Foundation).

* * *

In the absence of Sec. Epps (Doc found it necessary to be hospitalized during the days of the convention and missed the entire affair), C. S. N. S. Governors Ben Stocker and Ken Ferguson spearheaded a drive to gain new members. With assistance of other Governors, 16 new member applications and 18 renewals were collected in one day! With this kind of response, you may expect to see other

(Continued on page 14)

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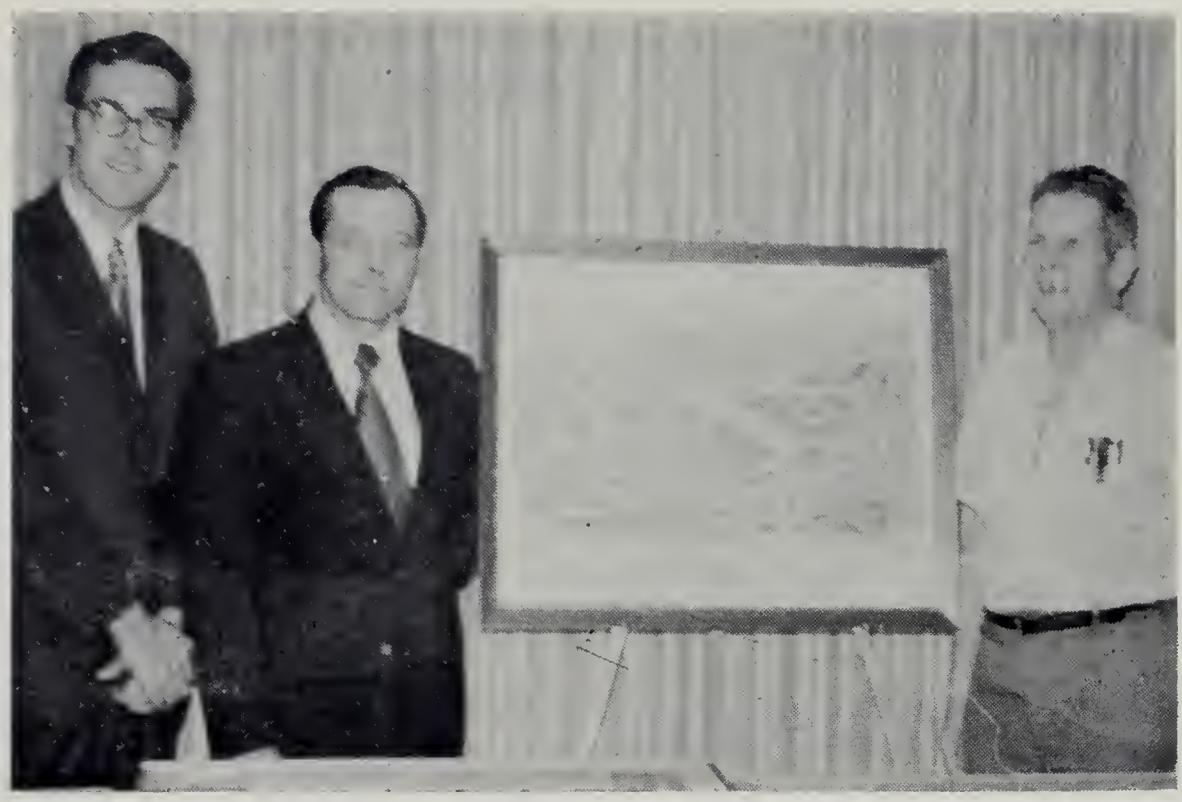

The top non-competitive exhibit at Missouri Numismatic Society's 11th Annual Coin Festival August 11-13, in St. Louis, was one composed of the many diverse items created for the St. Louis 1904 World's Fair to commemorate the Louisiana Purchase. A special committee, headed by (left to right) Roger Munie, Dr. Joseph Vacca, and Marvin Burnette, assembled what was termed by Festival organizers as "the most comprehensive collection of '04 World's Fair items ever assembled."

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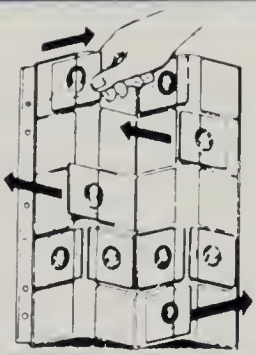

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HAVE YOU HEARD? —

(Continued from page 12)

Governors manning a C. S. N. S. registration table at other area shows in the future.

* * *

As The Centinel goes to press, it has been announced that interim meetings for C. S. N. S. officials will be held during the New Orleans A. N. A. convention, as well as during the Illinois Numismatic Association's state convention which will convene in Decatur, Ill., on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1.

* * *

One point which Pres. Cooper mentioned in his "Commentary" earlier in this issue definitely needs reiteration. Cooper has called for the "greater membership participation in the form of contributions to The Centinel" . . . contributions without which YOUR publication would cease to exist.

Not only is advertising a prime consideration (advertising revenue presently covers only a fraction of our production costs), editorial material—feature articles, club news, and news of the members — is equally vital.

Keep us in mind! Your comments and suggestions, too, will be appreciated.

—ROLLIE FENNER
Editor

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